

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA . Case No. 2:17-cr-00137-PD-1
Plaintiff .
v. . U.S. Courthouse
RUFUS SETH WILLIAMS, . 601 Market Street
Defendant . Philadelphia, PA 19106
March 31, 2017
1:59 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF HEARING
BEFORE HONORABLE TIMOTHY R. RICE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

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HEARING

1 THE CLERK: All rise.

2 THE COURT: Have a seat everyone. Good afternoon.

3 MR. MICHAEL J. DIAMONDSTEIN: Good afternoon, Your
4 Honor.

5 ALL: Good afternoon.

6 THE COURT: Thanks to all of you for coming out on
7 such an awful day. Mr. Burke, good afternoon.

8 MR. THOMAS BURKE: Good afternoon, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: I received your notice of appearance
10 March 30th.

11 MR. BURKE: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: Mr. Williams, you're discharging Mr.
13 Diamondstein, is that correct?

14 MR. RUFUS SETH WILLIAMS: Yes, Your Honor. Good
15 afternoon, Your Honor.

16 THE COURT: Good afternoon. Discharging Mr.
17 Diamondstein?

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, Your Honor.

19 MR. DIAMONDSTEIN: Good afternoon, sir.

20 THE COURT: Good afternoon, Mr. Diamondstein. How
21 are you?

22 MR. DIAMONDSTEIN: I'm well sir. Thank you.

23 THE COURT: All right. So, that makes his motion to
24 withdraw as moot, correct? Mr. Burke?

25 MR. BURKE: Yes.

HEARING

4

1 THE COURT: And we'll enter your appearance with the
2 Clerk. Just a couple questions. you understand that once you
3 enter your appearance you--

4 MR. BURKE: [Interposing] I'm in the for the long
5 haul, yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: You're in for the whole case?

7 MR. BURKE: I'm in.

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 MR. BURKE: I told my client short of my death and
10 beamed up by aliens, I'm in for the end.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 MR. BURKE: I understand that.

13 THE COURT: And even if Mr. Williams at some point
14 can't afford to pay you.

15 MR. BURKE: I understand that too.

16 THE COURT: That it's up to Judge Diamond whether you
17 can be appointed if he qualifies for Court appointed counsel?

18 MR. BURKE: Fully aware of that, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Now, how about the conflict issue
20 that Mr. Diamondstein had raised? Does that present a problem
21 for you?

22 MR. DIAMONDSTEIN: Judge, may I intervene?

23 THE COURT: Well let me just ask Mr. Burke a question
24 first. Does that present any problems for you Mr. Burke?

25 MR. BURKE: I don't believe so, no.

HEARING

5

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MR. DIAMONDSTEIN: The issue if I may may have
3 changed. I'm in possession of some information that the Court
4 of Common Pleas may be handling in a different fashion.
5 Subsequent to when I filed the motion. But based what I
6 understand the Court of Common Pleas to do it, it may not even
7 be an issue for Mr. Burke at all.

8 THE COURT: Okay. Is that accurate Mr. Burke?

9 MR. BURKE: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. BURKE: And I have provisions to deal with the
12 issue. But I'm aware of it and nonetheless I'm here.

13 THE COURT: Okay. And you understand Judge Diamond
14 has a scheduling conference scheduled for Monday at 3:00?

15 MR. BURKE: No, I have spoken to the government.
16 3:00.

17 THE COURT: 3:00 on Monday?

18 MR. BURKE: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Correct Mr. Zauzmer?

20 MR. ZAUZMER: Yes. Mm-hm.

21 THE COURT: Okay. Anything else we have to do?

22 MR. BURKE: No.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Williams, anything else?

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Have a good weekend, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: You as well. Mr. Zauzmer?

HEARING

1 MR. ZAUZMER: Same here, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right. Counsel, Mr. Diamondstein
3 thank you.

4 MR. DIAMONDSTEIN: Thank you sir.

5 THE COURT: Everyone, have a safe weekend. Thank
6 you.

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Thank you, sir, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Bye-bye.

9 * * * * *

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Lynn M. Reinhardt, court approved transcriber, certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter, and to the best of our ability.

Lynn M. Reinhardt

Lynn M. Reinhardt

DATE: April 11, 2017